

## Tell the Phoenix City Council: NO Food Tax!

February 11, 2010 Devonshire

**A majority on the Phoenix City Council just voted to put a TWO-CENT TAX ON GROCERIES (in the middle of a recession).** The *Arizona Republic's* story repeated city propaganda, saying that the council was “desperate to save police, fire and other city jobs.” But the truth is that the City does NOT need to cut police and fire to balance its budget. It needs to cut the “other city jobs,” eliminate non-essential services, and use public-private partnerships to operate and maintain assets such as city parks, libraries and senior centers.

If you are the average Phoenix taxpayer, **the City is going to tax your groceries to support city employees who make a LOT more than you do.** Councilman **Sal DiCiccio** (who voted against the tax hike) reports that “the average cost for all city employees is \$100,000, including all benefits. That includes all employees--clerks to managers.” DiCiccio points out that the average private sector total compensation in the Phoenix-Mesa area, according to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, is \$54,100—which is about half the average for City of Phoenix employees. “For an enterprise the size of Phoenix,” DiCiccio concludes, “with about 14,000 workers, that’s simply unsustainable, which is why we need to look to the private sector to perform some functions less expensively.”

Please make calls and send emails thanking the **Good Guys** for voting NO:

Sal DiCiccio, council.district.6@phoenix.gov (602) 262-7491  
Bill Gates, council.district.3@phoenix.gov (602) 262-7441  
Peggy Neely, council.district.2@phoenix.gov (602) 262-7445

Please make calls and send emails to the **Bad Guys**, letting them know you are not pleased with their YES votes to tax your groceries:

Mayor Phil Gordon, mayor.gordon@phoenix.gov (602) 262-7111  
Michael Johnson, council.district.8@phoenix.gov (602) 262-7493  
Claude Mattox, council.district.5@phoenix.gov (602) 262-7446  
Michael Nowakowski, council.district.7@phoenix.gov (602) 262-7492  
Tom Simplot, council.district.4@phoenix.gov (602) 262-7447  
Thelda Williams, council.district.1@phoenix.gov (602) 262-7444

To help gather signatures to **REPEAL the Food Tax**, call (602) 595-5451.

Paid for by **Americans for Prosperity, Arizona**  
More info: **www.aztaxpayers.org (602) 478-0146**